been conveyed on 15.1.1999 to the proposal of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited for preparation of Detailed Feasibility Report for extension of Vis-akh-Vijaywada Pipeline to Secunderabad.

Increase ia the petroleum refining capacity

1795. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:
SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to increase the petroleum refining capacity during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) which are the new refineries expected to start production during the next two years and their installed capacities; and

(d) what are the supply-demand figures of petroleum products in the country and the refining capacity in 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. During the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, the following refining capacity is expected to be added and start production:—

1999-2000	MMTPA
Visakh Refinery Expn.	3.0
Mathura Refinery Expn.	0.5
Koyali Refinery Expn.	3.0
MRPL Expn. Barauni Expn.	6.0
Reliance Refinery (Grass root) Numaligarh (Grass root)	0.9
	21.3
	3.0
2000-2001	
Essar Oil (Grass root)	10.5

(d) The latest estimate of total production of Petroleum Products is estimated at 68.097 MMT for the year 1998-99. The demand of Petroleum Products during 1998-99 is estimated at 89.48 MMT including parallel marketing scheme sales/ direct imports by Private Parties of 4.81 MMT.

Production and import of crude oil

1796. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) production and import of crude oil during last three years;

(b) production by companies other than ONGC and Oil India Limited during last three years;

(c) year-wise, investment by private sector both Indian and foreign for oil exploration during last three years; and

(d) the estimated production of crude oil during the Ninth Plan (year-wise) by private sector, ONGC and Oil India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The total production of crude oil, production

by private/JVCs and imports during the last three years was as under:—

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Total Production	JVC/Private	Import
1995-96	35.167	0.650	27.342
1996-97	32.900	1.345	33.906
1997-98	33.858	2.514	34.494

(c) The investment made by private sector both Indian and foreign for exploration activity in exploration blocks and discovered fields, during last three years is given below:

	95-96	96-97	97-98	Total
Amount USS(Million)	5.13	14.15	52.78	72.06

(d) The production of crude oil during the IXth Plan by ONGC/OIL/Pvt./JVC is estimated to as under:

(figs, in MMT)	
1997-98	- 33.858 (Actual)
1998-99	- 34.72 (MOU target)
1999-2000	- 36.550 (Estimated)
2000-01	- 37.221 (Estimated)
2001-02	- 36.978 (Estimated)

Efforts for exploration of oil by MNCs

1797. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-item in the 'Economic Times' dated 10th February, 1999, captioned "India's efforts to draw 'oil, gas MNCs in exploration falters."

(b) whether it is a fact that Govern ment have not been successful in attract ing oil companies to explore and produce oil in Indian territories; if so, the reasons for this lukewarm response;

(c) whether any alternative avenues are being explored by Government; and

(d) if so, details of strategies to exploit potential Indian oil and hydrocarbon resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Under New Exploration licensing Policy, 48 blocks have been offered for bidding to both private sector and public sector companies on terms which provide a level playing field to investors.

The last date for submission of bids is 18th May, 1999. It is therefore, too early to assess the response of companies including MNCs.

Use of surplus from oil pool account

1798. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to a fall in the international prices of oil, the oil pool account is estimated to generate a